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Holy Trinity International Prep News

Da Vinci's masterpieces

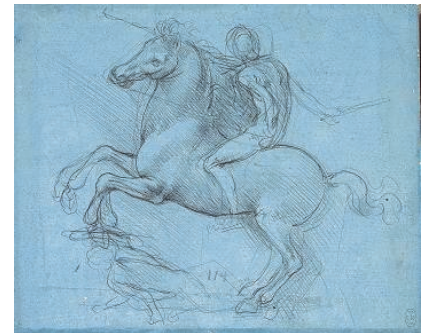
The Birmingham Art Gallery

Last Tuesday, Year 6 visited the Art Gallery to see some of Leonardo Da Vinci's masterpieces. As part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, ten of the Royal Collection's finest drawings by the Renaissance master Da Vinci have come to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. Birmingham is one of only five cities in the UK which will hold the exhibition. The pupils were thrilled to see such beautiful drawings in such close proximity. The exhibition demonstrated the extraordinary scope of Leonardo's interests - painting and sculpture, engineering, botany, mapmaking, hydraulics and anatomy. It also showed his use of different media, such as pen and ink, red and black chinks, and metalpoint.

The pupils have been researching Leonardo Da Vinci and his works in their art lessons. Da Vinci believed that a drawing or image could convey more knowledge than through any words, although some of his drawings and designs were extensively annotated. Beyond a handful of paintings, most of Da Vinci's great projects were never completed. His surviving drawings are therefore our main source of knowledge of his extraordinary achievements.

Leonardo was left-handed, and throughout his life he wrote his personal notes in mirror-image from right to left (although he wrote in the conventional manner when the text was intended for some other reader). Although some people believe he did this to keep his investigations secret, it was more likely that the talented artist never abandoned his childhood trick.

Whilst the pupils were walking around the unique exhibition, they had a go at sketching some of his masterpieces. The Gallery also included some antique fairground figures, which tied in well with their current design technology project of creating a movable fairground ride.



Swimming

On Monday pupils from Years 2 to 6 took part in a 'friendly' gala with Bromsgrove School. The pupils as usual showed great determination and effort with many of the races being very close. Congratulations to Adele, Ellie, Maia for winning their individual races and also all the Years 4 & 5 relay teams who won their races convincingly. Many thanks to Mrs Thomas and all the HTIS staff for making it a very smooth running gala. The Bromsgrove staff and parents commented on the kind hospitality that was shown to them, as well as the polite nature of our pupils.



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The Think Tank

On Friday Year 4 pupils had a fantastic day out at the Birmingham Science museum. As part of their inventions theme for this half term, the pupils are investigating electricity. There was a real 'buzz' when the pupils returned to school and they were all so enthusiastic to tell others about the electricity show. Pupils learned about the discovery of electricity by 'meeting' the scientist Michael Faraday whose hair raising experiments lead to the most useful source of energy in the modern world. They also saw how electricity is created for the home. It was a very interactive day and they even took part in the larger than life electrical circuit — Imogen was 'Plastic Girl', Zeb was 'Metal Man' and Ria was 'Wool Woman'!

The pupils gained a basic understanding of how static and current electricity are generated and also recognised that electricity has to be controlled to be useful as well as being potentially dangerous. The pupils also understood the three basic products of electricity through the use of hats: light (Sophie), heat (Joshua) and movement (David). Madame Tehan can't wait to go back!



Work of the week — Congratulations to:

James (K1)	:great concentration when playing dominoes
Rebecca (K2)	:super number recognition
Jessica (Yr R)	:wonderful writing
Joshua (Yr 1)	:superb independent writing & retelling of a story
Darcey (Yr 2)	:super writing
Louise / Maia (Yr 3)	:fantastic poem created together about weather
Ria (Yr 4)	:wonderful creation of her postage stamp
Kate (Yr 5)	:great portrait of Queen Elizabeth I
Rosie (Yr 6)	:excellent creation of a ship in Spanish
Antonia (Yr 6)	:great leaflet on the creation of her fairground ride



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Key Dates

30th Jan Visit from Inventors — Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

30th Jan Swimming gala v Abberley Hall (Yrs 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8)

31st Jan Year 2 Trip — Hartlebury Museum

2nd Feb 'The Jungle Book' Workshop (2pm)

7th Feb Swimming gala v St Martins (A)

10th Feb Half-term